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Substitute for form 1448A/PTO

# INFORMATION DISCLOSURE STATEMENT BY APPLICANT

(use as many sheets as necessary)

Sheet

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of

4

**Complete if Known**

Application Number

10/798 644

Filing Date

3-11-04

**First Named Inventor**

KENNETH R. DUNCAN

## Group Art Unit

3673

**Examiner Name**

Attorney Docket Number

## U.S. PATENT DOCUMENTS

[illegible]

**FOREIGN PATENT DOCUMENTS**

[illegible]

**Examiner  
Signature**

Date \_\_\_\_\_

**Considered**

\*EXAMINER: Initial if reference considered, whether or not citation is in conformance with MPEP 606. Draw line through citation if not in conformance and not considered. Include copy of this form with next communication to applicant.

<sup>1</sup> Unique citation designation number. <sup>2</sup> See attached Kinds of U.S. Patent Documents. <sup>3</sup> Enter Office that issued the document, by the two-letter code (WIPO Standard ST.3). <sup>4</sup> For Japanese patent documents, the indication of the year of the reign of the Emperor must precede the serial number of the patent document. <sup>5</sup> Kind of document by the appropriate symbols as indicated on the document under WIPO Standard ST. 16 if possible. <sup>6</sup> Applicant is to place a check mark here if English language Translation is attached.

**Burden Hour Statement:** This form is estimated to take 2.0 hours to complete. Time will vary depending upon the needs of the individual case. Any comments or the amount of time you are required to complete this form should be sent to the Chief Information Officer, Patent and Trademark Office, Washington, DC 20231. **DO NOT SEND FEES OR COMPLETED FORMS TO THIS ADDRESS. SEND TO: Assistant Commissioner for Patents, Washington, DC 20231.**



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IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

In re the application of

Kenneth R. Duncan

Serial Number 10/798,644

Filed: March 11, 2004

For: METHOD AND APPARATUS FOR LAYING PIPE ON AN INCLINE

Prior Art Statement

Commissioner for Patents  
P. O. Box 1450  
Arlington, Virginia 22203

Dear Sir:

Applicant is aware of the following prior art:

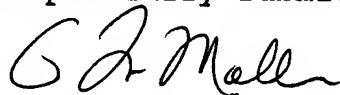
1. Bingham U.S. Patent 2,991,974 discloses a cable duct installing device used to lay electrical cables in tunnels.
2. Bender U.S. Patent 3,248,884 discloses a pipeline ditch breaker used in inclined pipeline ditches to restrain backfill from cascading down the ditch.
3. Strosnider U.S. Patent 5,197,713 discloses a wheeled device used to push pipe, presumably through a tunnel or the like under a road or other surface obstruction.

4. Eck U.S. Patent 6,450,736 discloses devices for supporting a pipeline above the surface of tundra so water and/or animals can crawl or walk under the pipeline.

5. Fukui U.S. Patent 6,588,984 discloses a technique for laying pipeline on a mountain side

A copy of each of the above is attached.

Respectfully submitted,

A handwritten signature in cursive script, appearing to read "G. Turner Moller".

G. Turner Moller  
Registration 22,978

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361/883-7257